

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3417

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 11735

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SENV, UNEP

SUBJ: SENIOR APPOINTMENTS IN UNEP

REF: (A) STATE 259503, (B) NAIROBI 11292, (C) USUN 4727

1. PERMREP WHOLEHEARTEDLY AGREES THAT DEPARTMENT GIVE HIGH PRIORITY IN IDENTIFYING WELL-QUALIFIED CANDIDATE TO OFFER TO TOLBA AS DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. IT IMPORTANT TO BEAR IN MIND THAT WHEN WE SPEAK OF SUCCESSOR TO STEDMAN, WE ARE SPEAKING TO TWO POSITIONS CURRENTLY HELD BY HIM, I.E. ACTING DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF THE ENVIRONMENT FUND AND MANAGEMENT. IN ADDITION, MUNRO, WHO IS CURRENTLY CHIEF PROGRAM PLANNER, WILL NEED TO BE REPLACED ABOUT JANUARY 1. WHILE HE HAD NOT FILLED THE

SLOT OF ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF THE PROGRAM, HE HAS DONE SO DE FACTO.

2. THUS THE EXDIR COULD BY JANUARY 1 FILL THE TWO ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SLOTS, I.E., FOR PROGRAM AND FOR THE FUND AND MANAGEMENT. IT IS NOT LIKELY IN PERMREP'S VIEW THAT HE WILL FILL THE DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SLOT UNTIL STEDMAN'S RETIREMENT NOW SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST. OUR SIGHT SHOULD BE

ON THE DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SLOT AND WE SHOULD BE

DEVELOPING THE MOST QUALIFIED CANDIDATE AVAILABLE, ONE
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TCIDEALLY WHO HAS IMPRESSIVE CREDENTIALS IN BOTH ADMINISTERING

SIGNIFICANT PROGRAMS AND WHO HAS A FIRM GRASP OF OUR PROGRAM OBJECTIVES IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD. AT THIS STATE OF ITS DEVELOPMENT, UNEP NEEDS LEADERSHIP IN BOTH FIELDS.

3. AT THE SAME TIME WE ARE MAKING OUR CASE FOR THE DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTORSHIP, WE SHOULD NOT OVERLOOK NEED FOR ENSURING THAT TWO ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR POSTS ARE FILLED BY CAPABLE INDIVIDUALS. IT IS NOT UNREASONABLE TO EXPECT THAT TOLBA WILL ACQUIESCE IN HAVING TWO INDIVIDUALS FROM DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FILL TWO OF FOUR TOP JOBS. NEITHER IS IT UNREASONABLE TO EXPECT THAT SOVIETS WILL OFFER A CANDIDATE, PROBABLY FOR ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR PROGRAM. WE SHOULD SET AS A HIGH PRIORITY ENCOURAGING WEO'SXETO DEVELOP A STRONG CANDIDATE FOR EITHER OF THESE TWO SLOTS, PREFERABLY TO BALANCE THE STRENGTHS OF OUR CANDIDATE FOR DEPUTY EXDIR.

4. PERMREP ALSO AGREES WCGH REF (C) THAT AUSTRALIANS HEAR DIRECTLY AND SOON FROM WASHINGTON ON OUR ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT STATE OF PLAY AND, PARTICULARLY IF AFRICAN AND LA SEEM TO BE SWINGING TO HIM, THAT OPPOSITION TO TOLBA WOULD NOW APPEAR TO HAVE MORE COSTS THAN BENEFITS. WE HAVE PROBABLY BEEN AS FORTHCOMING AS ANY IN WEO GROUP IN SUPPORT OF MCMICHAELS AND THEY WILL NO DOUBT BE DISAPPOINTED AT OUR ASSESSMENT. IF WE PUBLICLY MOVE TO SUPPORT TOLBA, HOWEVER, PERMREP HOPES WE WOULD HAVE SOME CLEARER INDICATION DIRECTLY FROM HIM AS TO WHAT HIS INTENTIONS ARE RE FILLING TOP POSTS AND PARTICULARLY HIS INTENTIONS RE DEPUTY.
MARSHALL

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